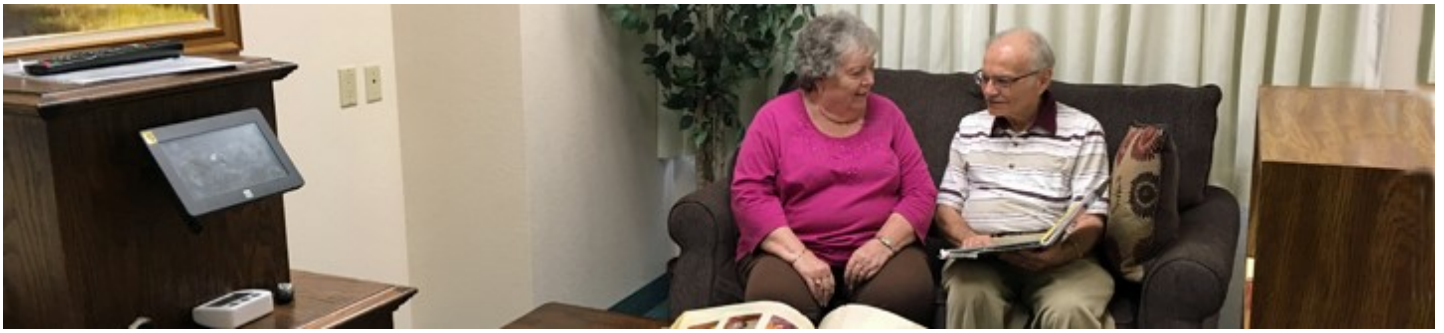


ORAL HISTORY STUDIO



Do you have relatives whose life stories you would like to preserve? Do you know that your own life stories will someday be important to your family?

There are so many reasons to preserve the stories that we carry in ourselves. Our life experiences are unique and important to our families. Once those stories can no longer be told by their owners they are lost forever unless we make a record of them.

The San Diego Family History Center/Family Search Library is delighted to offer the resources of its Oral History Studio for those who would like to record family members' stories. The public is welcome.

The studio is easy to use and offers lighting and camera in a comfortable, home-like setting. For most users, it merely requires the participants to sit and talk to one another. For more advanced users the camera can be zoomed and panned to focus on specific people and items.

You will go home with a copy of your recording that you can edit, if desired, duplicate and share.

The use of the Studio is free and you need only provide a flash drive to record your session. Call the number below to reserve a time.

Each family has its own approach to creating oral histories but here are some suggestions for better results.

- ◆ Do multiple short takes rather than one long one. The system can handle up to 60 minutes of recording but that is a lot to watch afterwards. It is better to plan on 10-15 minute videos focusing on specific topics such as "Growing up on the farm," "Wartime experiences," "Living in other countries," etc. But be flexible if the speaker has more to say than you anticipated.
- ◆ Have a list of prepared questions (we can provide suggestions) but don't force it. Let the speaker wander a little and you may get extra insights.
- ◆ Props such as a photo album, family heirlooms, etc. can be a great way to spark memories.
- ◆ Plan for rest intervals, especially when recording older people, and have water or other drinks available. But while alcohol may loosen the tongue, it is not allowed!



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